

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 016907/0935

In re patent application of

Susumu HASHIMOTO et al.

Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned
(Continuation of 09/146,222)

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: February 20, 2001

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: MAGNETORESISTANCE EFFECT ELEMENT WITH
IMPROVED ANTIFERROMAGNETIC LAYER

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Preliminary to examination of the above-captioned continuation application,
please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Between the Title and Background of the Invention, please insert --This is a continuation application of Serial No. 09/146,222 filed September 2, 1998, which is a reissue application of U.S. Patent No. 5,552,949 issued September 3, 1996.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 21, 24, 25, and 30-37 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend the claims as follows:

2. (Amended) The magnetoresistance effect element as set forth in claim 1, wherein said electrodes comprise at least one selected from the group consisting of Cu, Ag, Au, [A1] Al and alloys thereof.

11. (Amended) A magnetoresistance effect element comprising:
a spin valve film having a first ferromagnetic layer, a nonmagnetic layer, a
second ferromagnetic layer, and an antiferromagnetic layer, wherein the nonmagnetic
layer is provided between the first and second ferromagnetic layers, and the
antiferromagnetic layer is provided on the first or second ferromagnetic layer, the
antiferromagnetic layer comprising an alloy of PtMn.

REMARKS

Entry of the above-captioned amendments is requested prior to examination of the application on the merits. After entry of this preliminary amendment, the status of the claims is as follows: patented claims 1-10 are pending, added claims 21, 24, 25, and 30-37 are canceled, and added claims 11-20, 22, 23, 26-29, and 38 are pending.

Respectfully submitted,

20 February 2001
Date

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